Estimated loss suffered by the Railways

22. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated loss suffered by the Railways since 1st April, 1990 (till date) on account of fall in freight, fall in passenger traffic, destaction of rolling stocks|stations| railway lines in agitations in various parts of the country and increase in the working expenses due to inflation; and

(b) the steps contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) But lasted loss suffered by Railways on account of agitations (upto December, 1990) is approximately Rs. 125 crores. Increase in working expenses due to inflation is not susceptible to quantification.

(b) No concrete steps have yet been formalised.

Decline in Tourism

23. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of decline in Indian Tourism during 1990 as against the estimate and as compared to the tourist traffic in 1989;

(b) what is the percentage of decline in the foreign exchange earnings as a consequence thereof;

(c) whether any critical analysis has been made by Government therefor; if so, whether the decline in tourist traffic is due to law and order problem in the various States; continuous inadequate facilities in the State-owned hotels and at the tourist resorts in the country; inadequate planning to promote tourism; and lack of coordination between Government and the travel trade;

(d) the projection made for tourist traffic in 1991; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to achieve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH): (a) The percentage decline in foreign tourist traffic to India excluding the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh during 1990 is about 0.5 per cent over 1989 as against a target of about 8 per cent growth.

(b) As per the provisional estimates available, the foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 1990 recorded an increase of about 8 per cent over 1989.

(c) The decline in foreign tourist traffic to India during 1990 was primarily due to various developments both within the country and abroad. These include adverse overseas publicity of disturbances in some parts of the country, political and economic developments in various countries and the Gulf crisis.

(d) and (e) The outbreak of way in the Middle East has seriously affected the international tourist traffic all over the world including India. It is therefore, not possible to make any realistic projections before the war is over.

Capacity utilisation by the oil industry

24. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of capacity utilisation by the oil industry in the country as against the installed capacity during 1990 because of inadequate availability of edible oils|oil seeds;

(b) what is the percentage of rise in the prices of edible oils during the last